

Public reporting of physicians' financial relationships with drug and device manufacturers, hospitals, and ASCs

ISSUE: The healthcare system depends on physicians to develop clinical protocols, perform research on new drugs and devices, and make specific recommendations for patients to use a drug, device, ambulatory surgical center (ASC), or hospital. It is appropriate for physicians to make these recommendations. However, physicians may have potential financial conflicts of interest that have not been disclosed to payers, plans, patients, and the general public.

KEY POINTS: This paper examines physicians' financial relationships with manufacturers, hospitals, and ASCs, and discusses current federal and state disclosure requirements.

ACTION: Commissioners should provide feedback on the tone and content of the paper and offer guidance for future work in this area.

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